

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

UNCLAS STATE 253628

FOLLOWING REPEAT TEGUCIGALPA 4550 ACTION LONDON INFO
SECSTATE 20 OCT

QUOTE

UNCLAS TEGUCIGALPA 4550

AIDAC

LONDON FOR BROWNING

SECSTATE FOR AID/FDRC

E.O. 11652: N/A

SUBJ: GOH REQUEST TO EEC FOR FOOD AID

REF: (A) STATE 243528

(B) STATE 243529

1. MISSION VIEWS CURRENT FOOD PROBLEMS OF HONDURAS
TO BE SERIOUS AND HAS REQUESTED VARIOUS TYPES FOOD
ASSISTANCE AS OUTLINED REF. A. ESTIMATES OF CROP LOSSES
HAVE NOT BEEN FORMALLY REVISED BUT HARVESTS ARE STILL
EXPECTED TO BE ONLY marginally BETTER THAN REPORTED
PREVIOUSLY.

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2. MISSION CANNOT EVALUATE MILK AND BUTTERMILK REQUESTS.

DUE TO HIGH LOCAL (AND INTERNATIONAL) PRICES, IT IS REASONABLE TO EXPECT GOH TO REQUEST DONATIONS OF MILK FOR ITS INFANT AND CHILD FEEDING PROGRAMS. IF THESE ARE INTENDED USES, MISSION WOULD GIVE STRONG RECOMMENDATION THAT IT BE APPROVED IN PRINCIPLE. MISSION CANNOT COMMENT ON REASONABLENESS OF 3,2000 MT AS TOTAL AMOUNT, HOWEVER.

3. QUANTITY OF MAIZE REQUESTED APPROXIMATES ENTIRE PROJECTED CORN DEFICIT THROUGH AUGUST 1976 (ABOUT 100,000 MT AFTER COMMERCIAL AND TITLE I IMPORTS APPROVED TO DATE), AFTER WHICH LOCAL PRODUCTION SHOULD SATISFY LOCAL CONSUMPTION AND PERHAPS LEAVE SMALL AMOUNT FOR EXPORT IN 1977. IF ADDITIONAL 25,000 MT APPROVED UNDER TITLE I (PARA. 2, REF A), QUANTITY NEEDED TO MEET PROJECTED CORN DEFICIT COULD BE REDUCED BY THAT AMOUNT.

4. WHEAT REQUESTS (TOTAL 61,500 MT) ARE LARGER THAN CURRENT ANNUAL WHEAT IMPORTS (52,000 MT ESTIMATED IN CY 74, SIMILAR AMOUNT IN CY 75). WHEAT IS NORMALLY IMPORTED ON A COMMERCIAL BASIS (ALMOST ALL COMING FROM U.S.). TO OUR KNOWLEDGE THE ONLY EXCEPTION IS THE 10,000 MT IMPORTED IN JUNE 75 UNDER FY 75 TITLE LOAN (2 PERCENT INTEREST DURING TWO-YEAR GRACE PERIOD, 3 PERCENT FOR REMAINING 18 YEAR REPAYMENT PERIOD).

5. FYI: AID CONSIDERS HONDURAS TO BE PRIORITY ASSISTANCE RECIPIENT DUE TO ITS LOW LEVEL OF GDP PER CAPITA, ITS STATUS AS A COUNTRY MOST SERIOUSLY AFFECTED (MSA) BY PETROLEUM PRICE INCREASES AND FAO CLASSIFICATION AS CHRONIC FOOD SHORTAGE COUNTRY.
SANCHEZ UNQUOTE KISSINGER

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